(e) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to help these medical colleges in solving their problems and for safeguarding the future of students studying in these colleges; and

(f) what is the extent of the Central help given to each of the colleges referred to above during each of the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) According to the Medical Council of India (MCI) the Medical College, Nanded has been directed to stop admissions with immediate effect due to acute shortage of staff in the college.

(c) and (d) shortage of teaching staff in the Medical Colleges at Miraj and Ambajogai has been reported by the Medical Council of India. The deficiencies have been pointed out to the College authorities and a report on rectifying the deficienies is awaited. The Council has not received any requests from the Govt. Medical Colleges at Dhule and Yeotmal for undertaking the inspection of the colleges in the prescribed manner.

(e) and (f) The State Government of Maharashtra have reported to the Council that they are taking necessary steps to remove the deficiencies in order to fulfil the MCI standards.

There is no scheme for rendering Central assistance to State Medical Colleges.

Presence of Lead in the Blood of Inhabitants of Bombay

1101. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that 50 per cent of the Bombay city population have been found to have 20 mg. of lead per 100 cc of blood according to BARC experts, report as published in the Observer of April 13, 1993;

(b) if so, what are the adverse effects of the rise in lead poisoning on the health of the people; and

(c) what steps Government have taken or propose to take to safeguard the health and lives of people ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR) : (a) The news report appears to be erroneous. The BARC experts study indicates the blood lead levels to be of the average value of 17.7 micrograms per 100 ml. of blood.

(b) The Indian Council of Medical Research have indicated that the symptoms of lead poisoning depend on whether the exposure is through food, water or air but broadly they result in nerve weakness, vomitting, anaemia, abdominal pain among other symptoms.

(c) Steps are being taken to *inter-alia* control adulteration of food, the location of noxious industries, the use of toxic substances, reduce lead levels in petrol, besides creating public awareness about preventive health.

Transfer of Stocks Incharge of Indian Systems of Medicines under CGHS

1102. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL alias MEEM AFZAL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a policy of the Department to transfer the officials

after completing three or four years in the stores of C.G.H.S., Indian System of Medicines; and

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking to replace the officers who have completed four years ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Employees belonging to Groups B, C and D are not transferable. However, Group A Officers are generally transferred after completion of their tenure of 3 to 4 years.

Preventive Measures to Check Cholera in U.P.

1103. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken precautionary measures for preventing the spread of cholera in U.P. during the coming summer; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) As per report received from the State Govt. no death due to cholera has taken place in Uttar Pradesh till 24-4-1993. However, the State Govt. has initiated necessary preventive measures like dissemination of health education, provision of safe drinking water, ban on the sale of unhygienic foods, strengthening of surveillance and monitoring, storage of sufficient quantity of medicines, etc.

T.B. Patients in Bihar

1104. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of T.B. patients in Bihar are constantly rising year after year;

(b) is so, what is the number of TB patients in the State during the last three years, with year-wise statistics thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a large number of TB patients from Bihar had to shift to other places in the country particularly to Delhi in the absence of proper treatment in the State;

(d) whether Government have collected any data of such migrating TB patients from Bihar during the last three years;

(e) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(f) what action Government propose to take to provide best treatment to TB patients in Bihar ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) State Government has not sent information regarding new TB detection for the year 1991-92 and 1992-93. The figures reported for 1990-91 were 2,21,052.

(c) to (f) Now a days TB treatment is based on anti-TB drugs taken at home. Bihar has a network of 32 District TB Centres, 27 TB Clinics and 1969 TB beds to cater to the needs of patients. Government have no information of migration of TB patients from Bihar. Further, Central Government have augmented drug supply to the State.